

## **“The Cure for Boring Christianity”**

### **Acts 1:1-8**

“In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with<sup>1</sup> the Holy Spirit.” Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:1-8

Christian faith is exciting when you:

1. Get involved in Jesus’ ministry.

“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Jesus Christ to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10

2. Are warm-hearted and tough-minded

“While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there.” Acts 17:16, 17

“Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, “Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.” After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were

filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.” Acts 4:18-21, 31

3. Participate and don’t just watch

“If the average church should suddenly take seriously the notion that every lay person and member, man or woman is really a minister of Christ, we could have something like a revolution in a very short time.” Elton Trueblood

Ministry is an act of service given in the name of Jesus.

4. Experience the power of the Holy Spirit

“Be strong and courageous and get to work, for the Lord my God is with you. He will not forsake you. He will see to it that everything is finished correctly.” 1 Chronicles 28:20